

CLAIMS

1. [Cancelled] A clip for securing objects at a top surface of a deck or the like, formed of an array of spaced-apart, parallel elongated members of substantially uniform thickness with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other, the clip comprising:
 - an operative head formed by a substantially contiguous length of material bent into the aperture form and of hardness to resist distortion in installation and usage and adapted to receive connectors, to an object, in the aperture formed thereby having a maximum aperture span dimension greater than the spacing between the surface forming members in the space therebetween;
 - a pair of legs of said length of wire extending from the aperture head, the legs each dimensioned to fit in the spacing between the surface forming members and to traverse the thickness of adjacent ones of the surface members in the space therebetween; and
 - a pair of feet with one foot extending from each one of the pair of legs, the feet diverging from the thickness traversing direction of the legs in opposite directions to span a distance greater than the spacing between the surface members, the feet being constructed and arranged to lie flat against undersides of the adjacent members after the clip is passed through the said space between members in a first orientation, and the clip is rotated to a second orientation [and it is pulled in the head direction].
2. [Cancelled] The clip of claim 1, wherein the legs are substantially co-planar with the head.
3. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the clip's legs are angled with respect to an imaginary plane including the head.
4. [Currently amended] The clip of claim 21 [1], wherein the clip is of wire or wire-like and the feet are substantially co-planar with the head.
5. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the feet are angled with respect to an imaginary plane including the head.

6. [Cancelled] The clip of claim 1, wherein the head, the pair of legs and the pair of feet thereof are formed as a single element.
7. [Cancelled] The clip of claim 6, wherein the single element comprises a wire.
8. [Original claim] The clip of claim 1, wherein the legs are spring-loaded to separate from one another so as to each engage an opposing surface member.
9. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein at least part of each leg is twisted about a corresponding part of the other leg.
10. [Currently amended] The clip of claim 21[1], wherein [the aperture head] the head is formed in a shape selected from the group consisting of rings, ellipsoids, and multi-sided shapes.
11. [Currently amended] The clip of claim 21[1], wherein the said material is composed of a high-strength, corrosion-resistant material.
12. [Original claim] The clip of claim 11, wherein the material is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, brass, aluminum, and plastic.
13. [Currently amended] The clip of claim 21[1], wherein the clip is composed of a spring-tempered material.
14. [Cancelled] The clip of claim 13, wherein the legs are compressible to a position within the spacing between the surface members such that the feet diverge in separate planes substantially parallel to a plane including the head.
15. [Cancelled] The clip of claim 21[1], wherein the feet diverge in substantially straight, diametrically opposed directions.
16. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 15, wherein at least one of the feet terminates in a feature pointing back in the general direction of the head.

17. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 16, wherein the feature is a tyned or beveled end.
18. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 1, wherein the feet diverge in a curve-like geometry.
19. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 18, wherein at least one of the feet terminates in a feature pointing back in the general direction of the head.
20. [Withdrawn] The clip of claim 19, wherein the feature is a tyned or beveled end.
21. [New] A clip for securing objects to a top surface of a deck having spaced apart, and parallel to each other, elongated deck members with top and bottom surfaces and being of substantially uniform thickness, with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other and spaced by a small gap in relation to member thickness, comprising:
an elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material,
the wire being shaped to provide an aperture forming closed head and leg portions extending therefrom, closely spaced to and essentially parallel to each other, and terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs forming, outward extending portions, all in a common plane
the legs being of a length such that the wire clip can be inserted down between spaced adjacent deck members with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof and then partially rotated and pulled upwards so the feet bear up against bottoms of those deck members and the aperture head also clears the member, and
the aperture head and total span of the feet both being larger than the gap between said adjacent deck members and impassable through the gap unless the clip is oriented with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of the deck members on both sides of the gap.
22. [New] Multiple clips, each made as recited in claim 21, in combination with a deck having spaced similar members with sides parallel to each other and adjacent members separated by small gap in relation to member thickness,
the clips having their aperture head portions on top of the adjacent members and orthogonal thereto and feet below the members and orthogonal to the members to grip the

members' undersides when a pulling up load is applied to the heads.

23. [New] The combination of claim 22 wherein the members are at least one inch thick and the clips' legs are at least as long as the thickness of the members.
24. [New] The clip of claim 1 wherein the legs are at least one inch long.
25. [New] A clip for securing objects to a top surface of a dock having spaced apart and parallel to each other, elongated deck members of substantially uniform thickness with sides of adjacent ones of the members substantially parallel to each other and spaced by a small gap in relation to member thickness comprising:
 - an elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material,
 - the wire being shaped to provide forms an aperture forming closed head and elongated leg portions extending therefrom closely spaced and essentially parallel to each other and terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs and thus forming outward extending portions, all in a common plane,
 - The legs being of a length such that the wire clip can be inserted down between spaced adjacent dock members with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof and partially rotated and pulled upwards so the feet bear up against bottoms of those members and the aperture head clears the tops of those members, and
 - the aperture head and total span of the feet both being larger than the gap between said adjacent dock members and impassable through the gap unless the clip is oriented with its said plane substantially parallel to the sides of the dock members.
26. [New] Multiple clips, each made as recited in claim 25, in combination with a dock having spaced similar members with sides parallel to each other and adjacent members separated by small gap in relative to member thickness,
 - the clips having their heads on top of the adjacent members and orthogonal thereto and feet below the members and orthogonal to the members to grip the members' undersides when pulling up load is applied to the heads.
27. [New] The combination of claim 20 wherein the members are at least two inches thick and the clip legs are at least as long as the thickness of the members.
28. [New] A method of securing objects to a top surface of a deck or a dock having spaced apart parallel elongated members of substantially uniform thickness with sides of adjacent ones of

the members substantially parallel to each other, adjacent members being spaced by a small gap in relation to member thickness, comprising:

(a) providing clips made of elongated wire of high strength, corrosion resistant material, the wire being formed with an aperture forming closed head and leg portions extending therefrom closely spaced to and essentially parallel to each other and terminating at distal ends in feet orthogonal to the legs and thus forming outward extending portions, all in a common plane, such that the wire can be inserted down between spaced adjacent members with its plane parallel to the sides of those members past the full thickness thereof, the aperture head and total span of the feet being larger than the space between said adjacent member and impassable through the space between adjacent deck members unless the clip is oriented substantially parallel to the sides of the head members and the legs being at least as long as the thickness of such members,

(b) inserting the clips between adjacent deck members so that legs are bounded by the spaced members and the head and feet are clear of them, partially rotating the clip so the head and feet are substantially orthogonally oriented to the direction of elongation of the members, and

(c) tying one or more ropes or cords to aperture heads of spaced such inserted and rotated clips and using such ropes or cords to cover or tie down one or more objects to be secured to the deck or dock.